

97-202

16, Dec

Mr. Richard A. Denton
Water Resources Manager
P.O. Box H20
Concord, CA 94524

Dear Dr. Denton:

Thank you for your comments on the August 1997 Draft Component Report, which reflect careful thought, and are appreciated. We intend to adopt your suggestions, including modifying our chloride and TDS targets to reflect the Water Quality Control Plan, as opposed to drinking water standards. We also intend to adopt the 1 oocyst/100ml target recommended by the Parameter Assessment Team for *Giardia* and *Cryptosporidium*. As used in the Water Quality Program, water quality targets are intended to indicate the level of a water quality constituent that does not significantly diminish a water's suitability to support all beneficial uses. Establishment of a target does not constitute a guarantee that, once overall solutions to the problems of the Bay-Delta estuary are developed, all targets will necessarily be fully reached.

There was not an intention to finalize the Draft Component Report, which was intended only as a working document for the use of the Water Quality Technical Group. Your comments will be incorporated into the Water Quality Technical Appendix of the CALFED Programmatic EIR/EIS.

The quality of the Water Quality Technical Appendix and other documents of the CALFED program depend in large measure on the degree to which the stakeholders and cooperating agencies devote resources to reviewing our work products and recommending improvements. I particularly appreciate the expert assistance of Contra Costa Water District staff and believe our final products will be better as a result.

Sincerely,

Lester A. Snow,
Executive Director

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